

# **African Trade Initiative**

## Out-Bound Trade Mission to South Africa & Namibia

**Proposed Dates:** January – February, 2007.

Mission Theme: "Gateway of the Americas meets the Southern African Gateway"

Expected Number of Delegates: 15

# **Mission Objectives**

- To explore the possibility of direct air route development between Miami-Dade and Southern Africa.
- To collaborate with Miami Dade Sister Cities coordinator in establishing a Sister City relationship with a city in South Africa.
- To promote Miami as the ultimate tourism destination with five major Southern African travel and tour operators.
- To provide one-to-one business matchmaking opportunities for five (5) targeted Miami-Dade County businesses with their counterparts in Southern Africa.
- To meet and network with trade organizations, chambers of commerce and government officials.

# **Strategic Partners**

Miami International Airport ■ Miami Seaport ■ Enterprise Florida, Inc ■ Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau ■ South African Business Club of Miami ■ Diaspora Arts Coalition ■ Foundation for Democracy in Africa ■ Mayor's African Trade Task Force ■ Miami-Dade County Sister Cities Program

# REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# **COUNTRY PROFILE**

# **Population**

46.6 million (2004 estimate)

## **Ethnic Composition**

Black 79%; White 9.6%; Colored 8.9%; Asian (Indian) 2.5%.

## **Capitals**

Administrative, Pretoria;

Legislative, Cape Town; Judicial, Bloemfontein.

## **Other Major Cities**

Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth, Durban.

## **President**

Mr. Thabo Mbeki

# Languages

Afrikaans, English, isiNdebele, isiXhosa, isiZulu, Sepedi, Sesotho, Setswana, siSwati, Tshivenda, and Xitsonga (all official languages).

GDP [2004]: \$213 billion

#### **Natural Resources**

Almost all essential commodities, except petroleum products and bauxite are found in South Africa. It is the only country in the world that manufactures fuel from coal. It is also the World's largest producer of platinum, gold, and chromium; also significant coal production.

## Industry

Minerals, mining, motor vehicles and parts, machinery, textiles, chemicals, fertilizer, information technology, electronics, and agro-processing.

Trade (2004) - Exports-\$36.3 billion. Imports-\$34 billion

## **U.S. - SOUTH AFRICA RELATIONS**

Having emerged from the international isolation of the apartheid era, South Africa has become a leading international actor. Its principal foreign policy objective is to promote the economic, political, and cultural regeneration of Africa, through the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD); to promote the peaceful resolution of conflict in Africa.

South Africa is a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO). U.S. products qualify for South Africa's most-favored-nation tariff rates. South Africa also is an eligible country for the benefits under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), and most of its products can enter the United States market duty free.

## **MIAMI-DADE COUNTY - SOUTH AFRICA TRADE RELATIONS**

For YTD 2005, trade between Miami-Dade County and South Africa was approximately **US\$100.4 million.** For the years 2004, and 2003, that figure was US\$162.6 and US\$91.5 respectively. The City of Cape Town in South Africa has applied to become a Sister City to Miami-Dade County, and the authorities there hope that this agreement, once finalized would coincide with a Miami-Dade County Mission to South Africa.



Republic of South Africa: Map & Flag

# REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA COUNTRY PROFILE

## **Population**

1.8 million (2004 estimate)

## **Ethnic Composition**

Black 87%; white 6%; mixed race 7%

## Capital

Windhoek

## **Other Major Cities**

Grootfontein, Katima Mulilo, Keetmanshoop, Luderitz, Ondangwa, Oranjemund, Oshakati, Otjiwarongo, Swakopmund, Tsumeb, Walvis Bay

## **President**

Mr. Hifikepunye Pohamba

# Languages

English (official); Afrikaans, German, Oshivambo, Herero, Nama/Damara, other indigenous languages.

GDP: [2004] \$5.5 billion

## **Natural Resources**

Diamonds, copper, gold, uranium, lead, tin, zinc, salt, vanadium, fisheries, and wildlife. **Trade: Exports (2004)** - \$1.6 billion: diamonds, copper, lead, uranium, beef, cattle, fish, karakul pelts. **Imports (2004)** - \$2.3 billion: foodstuffs, construction material, manufactured goods. Given its small domestic market but favorable location and a superb transport and communications base, Namibia is a leading advocate of regional economic integration. Namibia presently belongs to - Southern African Development Community (SADC), Southern African Customs Union (SACU) with South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, and Swaziland. SACU is currently negotiating a Free Trade Agreement with the United States--the first of its kind in Sub-Saharan Africa. The SACU Secretariat is located in Windhoek.

#### U.S. - NAMIBIA RELATIONS

U.S.-Namibian relations are good and continue to improve. The bilateral relationship has been strengthened through trade ties and U.S. assistance programs. Namibia has seized opportunities created by AGOA and is currently involved in negotiating a Free Trade Agreement between the U.S. and the Southern African Customs Union (SACU). Namibia has been included in President Bush's International Mother and Child HIV Initiative and the Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. The U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) bilateral presence in Namibia has been extended until 2010. In addition to the Embassy, the Centers for Disease Control, Peace Corps, and the Defense Departments have offices in Windhoek.

#### **MIAMI-DADE COUNTY - NAMIBIAN TRADE RELATIONS**

Namibia is Miami-Dade County's 95th trade partner with trade valued at \$12. An official from the Namibian Embassy in Washington D.C. visited Miami Dade County in February, 2006, to explore closer economic ties and cooperation between the County and Namibia.



Republic of Namibia - Map & Flag